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## NRMRL Weekly Report July 17-21, 2017

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### Hot Issues:

**Technical support to Region 1 on Superfund site with perfluorinated compounds, Portsmouth, RI, July 16-22.** At the request of Region 1, Carolyn Acheson and Jennifer Goetz will provide technical support for a U.S. Navy sampling event at the Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) of the Newport Naval Education & Training Center Superfund Site. Carolyn and Jennifer will collect soil samples to be analyzed for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The purpose of the sampling is to collect more complete measurements of PFAS at this site, evaluate analytical methods in the soil matrix, compare EPA data to contract lab data, and evaluate variability in sample mixing and spatial variability at the site. The DFSP was used for petroleum fuel storage and distribution by the Navy and has PCB, heavy metals, and petroleum hydrocarbon contamination in the soil, groundwater, and surface water. This work is conducted under NRMRL's Engineering Technical Support Center. **Statute: CERCLA (Superfund)**

### **Updates on the two requests for air-related technical assistance/support NRMRL received last week and reported on July 5:**

- Region 9 requested assistance and expertise in particulate matter and combustion as well as incineration and emissions of dioxins and furans to address waste management challenges faced by American Samoa and other Pacific Islands in the region. NRMRL responded that Brian Gullet and Tiffany Yelverton will provide technical advice on waste management and technologies as needed. At this point, their involvement is in a consulting role as the region considers technical solutions.
- John Vandenberg requested support on an issue he is working on with Region 6 regarding high air concentrations of chloroprene in schools in LaPlace, LA. John requested engineering and technical support to address some of the local community's questions and concerns. Richard Shores provided responses to the initial questions from the region. Richard also indicated that additional data on existing chloroprene concentrations inside or

outside the locations of concern would be needed to provide additional technical guidance and recommendations.

Flint, MI Update:

**Lead service line project update.** NRMRL is just beginning to receive initial results from the lead service line project.

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Upcoming Public Events:

**Next Generation Emissions Measurement (NGEM) Rubbertown community meeting, July 25.** Via webinar, Eben Thoma will present an update on the joint field project with the Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District (LMAPCD) to community groups in Rubbertown, a neighborhood of Louisville. The goals of this project are to advance prototype NGEM systems, better understand emissions from sources in the area, and evaluate potential improvements from recent industry efforts to reduce emissions. LMAPCD will use the information from these community meetings to further refine and communicate the next steps of the proposed project, which is tentatively scheduled to begin in August 2017. NGEM approaches can assist industrial facilities with detecting and mitigating certain types of air pollution issues, such as fugitive leaks of volatile organic compounds, complaints about odiferous compounds, and unintended product loss. **Statute: Clean Air Act**

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Upcoming Major Decisions:

None to report

This Week/Last Week:

**Green infrastructure/NetZero research featured in Region 7 blog.** Region 7 recently published an internal blog highlighting the NRMRL/NERL permeable pavement project at Fort Riley's Seitz Elementary School in Kansas. The blog, [Fort Riley's Green Infrastructure Project Shows Permeable Pavement at Work](#), discusses the project which is being conducted in partnership with the U.S. Army and Geary County Schools. Mike Borst was interviewed and photographed for the story during a June site visit with his field team. **Statute: Clean Water Act**

Upcoming Presentations July 12-August 11:

**Webinar presentation on treatment of heavy metals at mining sites, July 26.** Barbara Butler is presenting during a webinar series hosted by the [Federal Remediation Technology Roundtable](#) (FRTR). This [webinar session](#) will address heavy metals mining site characterization and treatment, including different techniques that can be implemented for site characterization and bioremediation. Barbara will discuss anaerobic biochemical reactor treatment of mining-influenced water. The webinar is open to anyone.

**Presentation at the Ecological Society of America annual meeting, Portland, OR, August 7.** Alessandro Ossola (NRC Post-Doc) will present, “Homogenization of vegetation structure across U.S. residential neighborhoods: Effects of climate, urban morphology, and socio-economics.” This presentation will discuss the results of his postdoctoral research under the SSWR Project on Information and Guidance through Community Partnerships. [Meeting](#) attendees will include members of government and academia.

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*Other Upcoming Activities:*

**Participation in International Agency Energy (IEA) annual meeting, Hyattsville, MD, July 10-12.** Carol Lenox is attending the [IEA Energy Technology Systems Analysis Program](#) (ETSAP) annual meeting. ETSAP, the international consortium of MARKAL and TIMES model users, is funding a research initiative to develop a starter model for use by groups interested in developing a TIMES (the next generation version of MARKAL) database representation of an energy system. ETSAP has chosen the EPA's energy system database, [EPAUS9r](#), to be the underlying database framework for this starter model. Carol will participate in discussions about the development of this starter model and provided feedback to ETSAP. Carol was also invited to speak with members of the ETSAP Executive Committee about the possibility of EPA becoming the U.S. representative within ETSAP. Statute: **Clean Air Act**

**Technical Support: Field studies at Tar Creek Superfund Site, Picher, OK, July 17-20.** At the request of Region 6, Steve Acree, Randall Ross, and Robert Ford will travel to the [Tar Creek Superfund Site](#) to demonstrate tools for mapping groundwater and surface water interactions with streams and creeks running through the site. Region 6 wants to be able to map where groundwater may be daylighting into surface waters near mill tailings. The Tar Creek Superfund Site has cadmium, iron, lead, and zinc contamination in the surface water, groundwater, and soil from past mining activities. It is part of the Tri-State Mining District, which includes northeastern Oklahoma, southeastern Kansas, and southwestern Missouri. Statute: **CERCLA (Superfund)**

**Technical Support: Field studies at Fort Lewis Logistics Center Superfund Site, Tacoma, WA, July 18-25.** Michael Brooks, Russell Neill, Molly Sexton, and Eric Daiber will travel to East Gate Disposal Yard, Fort Lewis Logistics Center Superfund Site to collect groundwater elevation measurements and groundwater samples. This work is part of a project funded under DoD's Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) to conduct long-term post-remedial monitoring using flux-based measurements and is being conducted in collaboration with the University of Florida under the SHC program. This work will help assess long-term benefits of NAPL source zone remedial treatments. The Fort Lewis Logistics Center site has groundwater, soil, sludge, and surface water contaminated with heavy metals and other hazardous chemicals. **Statute: CERCLA (Superfund)**

Thanks,

Alice

**Alice Gilliland, Ph.D.**

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